

substrate, said method comprising the steps of:

(A) applying a color-providing composition to the substrate thereby forming an uncured film layer of the color-providing composition; and

(B) applying an at least partially-transparent clearcoat composition wet-on-wet to the uncured film layer of the color-providing composition thereby forming an uncured film layer of the clearcoat composition on the uncured film layer of the color-providing composition, wherein the clearcoat composition comprises phosphorescent pigment such that exposure of the phosphorescent pigment to an external incident energy source is maximized;

with at least one of the color-providing composition and the clearcoat composition being cross-linkable.

Please cancel claim 5.

6. (Amended) A method as set forth in claim 1 wherein the step of applying the clearcoat composition comprising the phosphorescent pigment is further defined as applying a clearcoat composition comprising from 5 to 30 parts by weight of the phosphorescent pigment based on 100 parts by weight of the clearcoat composition.

7. (Amended) A method as set forth in claim further comprising the step of simultaneously curing the uncured film layers of the pigmented basecoat composition and the clearcoat composition to provide the phosphorescent coating system with the


phosphorescent pigment in the clearcoat composition.

9. (Amended) A method as set forth in claim 1 wherein the step of (A) applying the color-providing composition is further defined as applying a pigmented basecoat composition to the substrate wherein the pigmented basecoat composition also comprises the phosphorescent pigment and the uncured film layer of the color-providing composition is formed of the pigmented basecoat composition comprising the phosphorescent pigment.


13. (Amended) A method as set forth in claim 12 further comprising the step of simultaneously curing the uncured film layers of the pigmented basecoat composition, comprising the phosphorescent pigment, and the clearcoat composition comprising the phosphorescent pigment to provide the phosphorescent coating system with the phosphorescent pigment in both the pigmented basecoat composition and the clearcoat composition.

Please cancel claim 15.

32. (Amended) A method as set forth in claim 1 further comprising the step of incorporating the phosphorescent pigment into the clearcoat composition prior to the step of (B) applying the at least partially-transparent clearcoat composition to reduce an average particle size of the phosphorescent pigment and any agglomerates of the phosphorescent pigment to less than 10 microns.



34. (Amended) A method as set forth in claim 32 wherein the step of incorporating the phosphorescent pigment into the clearcoat composition is further defined as grinding the phosphorescent pigment and the clearcoat composition with grinding media selected from the group consisting of sand, glass, alumina, zirconia beads, nylon beads, styrene beads, rubber beads, plastic beads, and combinations thereof to reduce the average particle size of the phosphorescent pigment and any agglomerates of the phosphorescent pigment to less than 10 microns.



38. (Amended) A phosphorescent coating system comprising:

- a substrate;
- a color-providing film layer formed from a color-providing composition applied to said substrate; and
- an at least partially-transparent clearcoat film layer formed from an at least partially-transparent clearcoat composition applied wet-on-wet to said color-providing composition as said color-providing composition is uncured, wherein said clearcoat composition comprises phosphorescent pigment such that exposure of said phosphorescent pigment to an external energy source is maximized;


with at least one of said color-providing composition and said clearcoat composition being cross-linkable.

Please cancel claim 42.


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43. (Amended) A phosphorescent coating system as set forth in claim 38 wherein said clearcoat composition comprises from 5 to 30 parts by weight of said phosphorescent pigment based on 100 parts by weight of said clearcoat composition.

44. (Amended) A phosphorescent coating system as set forth in claim 38 wherein said pigmented basecoat composition and said clearcoat composition are simultaneously cured to form said pigmented basecoat film layer and said clearcoat film layer, respectively.



46. (Amended) A phosphorescent coating system as set forth in claim 38 wherein said color-providing film layer is further defined as a pigmented basecoat film layer formed from a pigmented basecoat composition also comprising said phosphorescent pigment and being applied to said substrate.

REMARKS

After entry of the subject amendment, claims 1-4, 6-14, 16-41, and 43-70 remain in the application with claims 1 and 38 in independent form. More specifically, claims 5, 15, and 42 have been cancelled, and claims 1, 6, 7, 9, 13, 32, 34, 38, 43, 44, and 46 have been amended. There is full support in the specification as originally filed for the amendments to the claims. Accordingly, no new matter has been introduced.

Claims 15 and 34 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter